

OEXA 82-2034

26 AUG 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:



Director, Office of External Affairs

25X1

SUBJECT: Request for Interview - Niles Lathem, NEW YORK POST

1. Action Requested: Decline the request of NEW YORK POST correspondent Niles Lathem for an interview with you to discuss "general CIA issues."

2. Background: Lathem has a reputation for being a sensationalist. In a recent article he maintained that you were one of several "hardliners" who opposed the position of some Administration officials pushing for firm support of the U.K. in the Falkland Islands dispute. The "hardliners" allegedly managed to persuade the President that the USSR might gain a foothold in Latin America through continued U.S. support of the U.K. in the crisis. Lathem was also the author of a front-page story in the POST last March contending that the USSR was building bases in Cuba that violated the 1962 U.S.-USSR accords concluded in the aftermath of the missile crisis. In February he reported that you had ordered "a steady build-up" of covert activities in Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua, including the dispatch of "hit teams."

3. Recommendation: Authorize Public Affairs to decline Lathem's request.



25X1

ACCEPT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Central Intelligence

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

DECLINE:

**7s/ William J. Casey**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Central Intelligence

03 SEP 1982

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

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